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MARVEL COMICS GROUP



THE HANDS OF SHANG-CHI.

MASTER OF KUNG FU

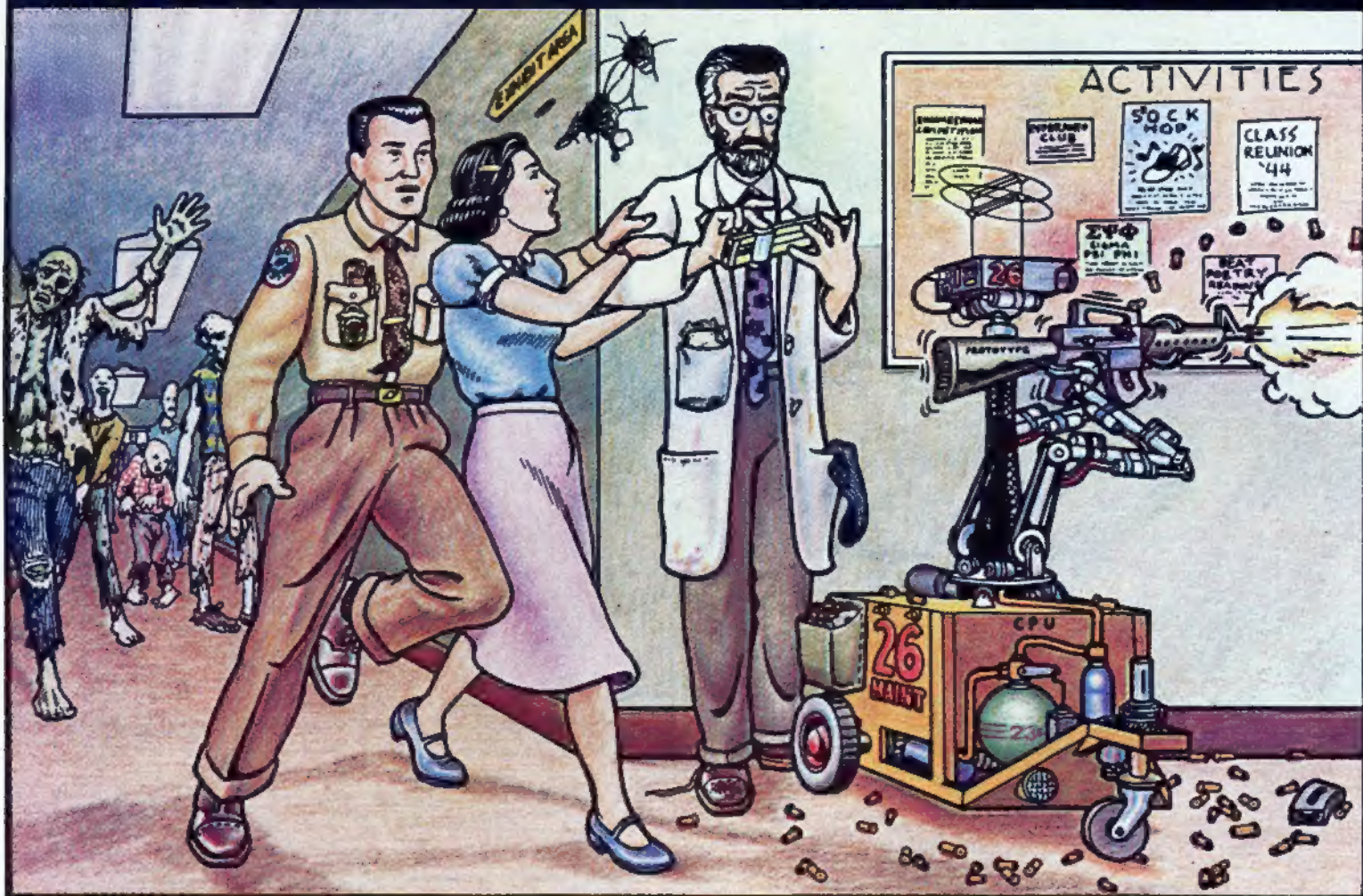
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Stan Lee PRESENTS: MASTER OF KUNG FU!

Featuring supporting characters created by SAX ROHMER

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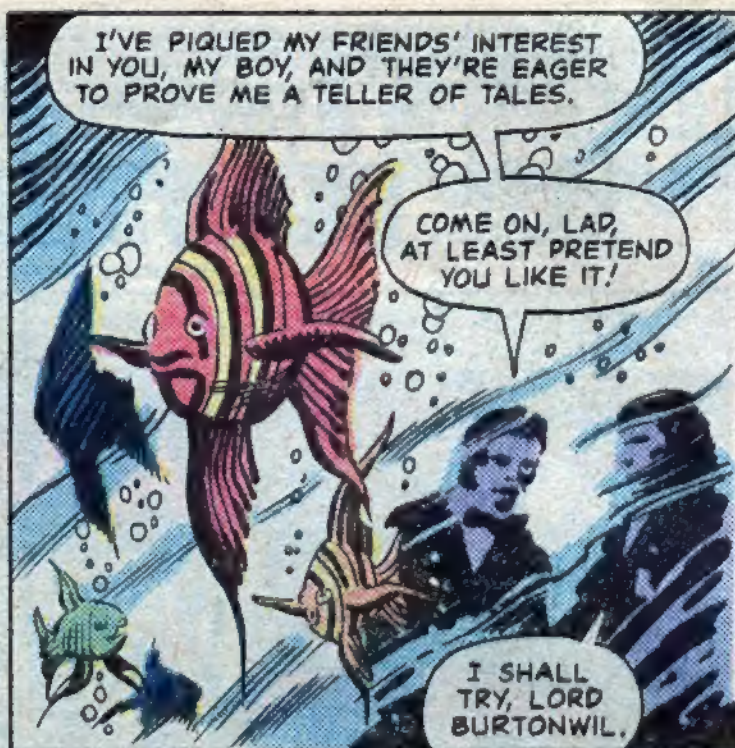
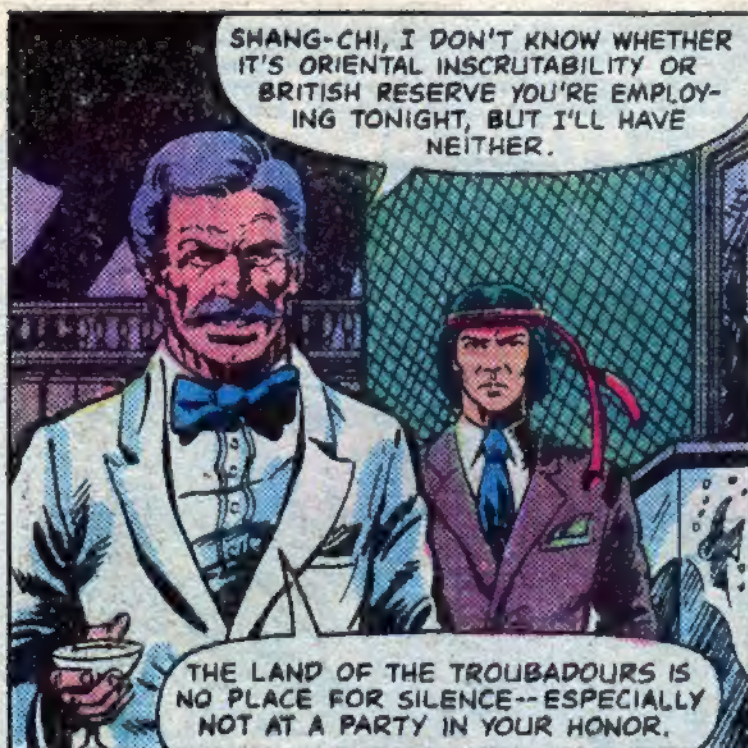
"I HAVE BEEN SENT TO
PROVENCE, IN THE SOUTH OF
FRANCE, FOR A REST.

"IT IS A COUNTRY OF WARMTH
AND BEAUTY, AS WAS MY FATHER'S
LAND IN YÜNNAN, SOUTH OF
THE CLOUDS, IN MY YOUTH.

"BUT, AS IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE,
THERE IS A HUMAN WEATHER
THAT ALTERS THE WARMTH OF THE
AIR, A WIND OF THE MIND THAT
BRINGS A COLDNESS TO THE
FLESH.

"TODAY, I KNOW IT TO BE FEAR. BUT
THAT KNOWLEDGE ITSELF IS ICE.

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"THE WARM WIND IS THE ONLY MUSIC-- AND YET, WITH HER, IT *IS* MUSIC. SHE WHIRLS AND CHANGES AS DOES THE WIND.

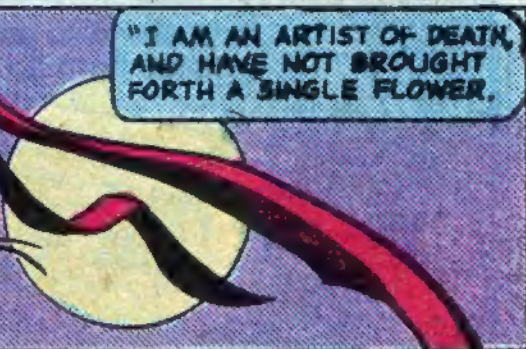


"HER BODY
STARTLES
ME WITH
IT
GRACE.

"I AM LESS
THAN THIS.



"I AM AN ARTIST OF DEATH,
AND HAVE NOT BROUGHT
FORTH A SINGLE FLOWER.



"I WOULD APPLAUD HER.

NO, SHANG-CHI,
DO NOT CLAP.



EUROPE HAS TAUGHT YOU TO
CLAP. AND YOU ARE NOT
EUROPE.

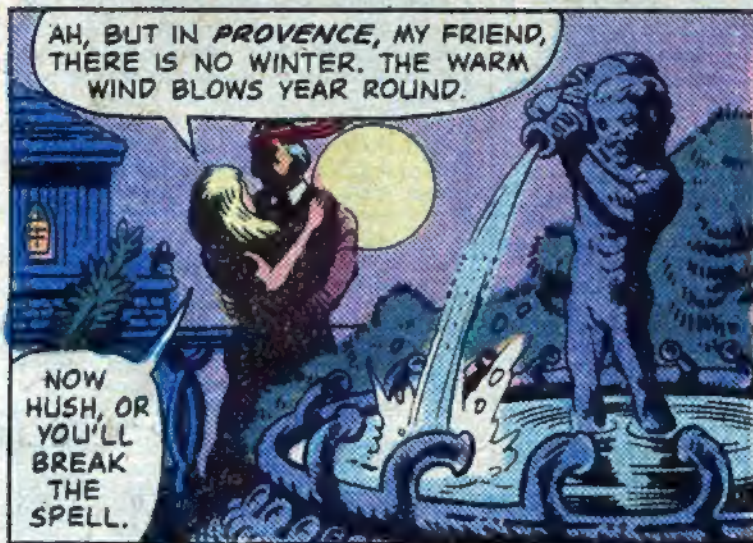


YOU ARE
MORE
THAN THAT.

IT IS AS YOU SAID: I AM A
DESTROYER, NOT A CREATOR.
I AM NOT PART OF YOUR
SPRING.



AH, BUT IN *PROVENCE*, MY FRIEND,
THERE IS NO WINTER. THE WARM
WIND BLOWS YEAR ROUND.



NOW
HUSH, OR
YOU'LL
BREAK
THE
SPELL.



"SHE SENSES THE MAGIC AS WELL. THEN,
PERHAPS IT IS-- REAL.

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YES, ANTON, I WOULD PREFER THAT YOU STAY WHILE I SPEAK WITH OUR GUEST.

AS YOU WISH, MADAME. BUT I ASSURE YOU HE IS NO DANGER TO YOUR PERSON.

AND I TRUST YOUR ASSURANCES, ANTON. BUT STAY.

MONSIEUR SHANG-CHI, I AM DAME RENÉE DE PEYRAUD. I AM GLAD YOU HAVE HONORED MY INVITATION.

"M. PAULVE HAS TOLD YOU OF THE SABOTAGE HERE AT THE REFINERY. I SHALL TELL YOU MORE.

"I SHALL TELL YOU OF IDIC--INTERNATIONAL DATA INTEGRATION AND CONTROL. THEY ARE A CARTEL-- DETERMINED TO MANAGE THE WORLD ECONOMY-- BY ANY MEANS AVAILABLE."

RECENTLY, THEY MADE AN OFFER TO REORGANIZE OUR COMPUTER SYSTEM. I TURNED IT DOWN.

WITH THEIR COMPUTERS, THEIR SOFTWARE, THEY COULD MANIPULATE OUR OUTPUT TO SERVE THEIR MASTER PLAN. THEY WERE NOT PLEASED BY MY DECISION.

IN THE MONTHS THAT FOLLOWED, WE WERE SUBJECT TO NUMEROUS ACCIDENTS WITH OUR DATA NET.

"KNOWING THE SOURCE OF THESE INCIDENTS, I DECIDED TO--

IDIC LIKED THIS ACTION EVEN LESS, MONSIEUR.

BUT THIS IS NOT ENOUGH. I WISH YOU, SHANG-CHI, TO AID ME IN KEEPING MYSELF ALIVE."

YOUR PAYMENT WILL BE MOST GENEROUS, SHANG-CHI.

FERME

"-- SHUT THE REFINERY DOWN-- RATHER THAN ALLOW THEM TO INFILTRATE FURTHER."

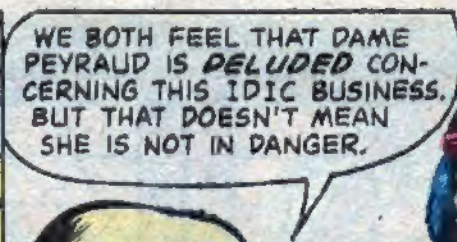
I NOW FEAR FOR MY LIFE.

"I HAVE ASKED THAT MY EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL CARRY SIDEARMS... AS ANTON DEMONSTRATES.

I SHALL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS ON MADAME'S BEHALF.



BEFORE YOU DECIDE, SHANG-CHI, ANTON AND I FEEL YOU SHOULD HEAR US, AS WELL!



WE BOTH FEEL THAT DAME PEYRAUD IS *DELUDED* CONCERNING THIS IDIC BUSINESS. BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN SHE IS NOT IN DANGER.

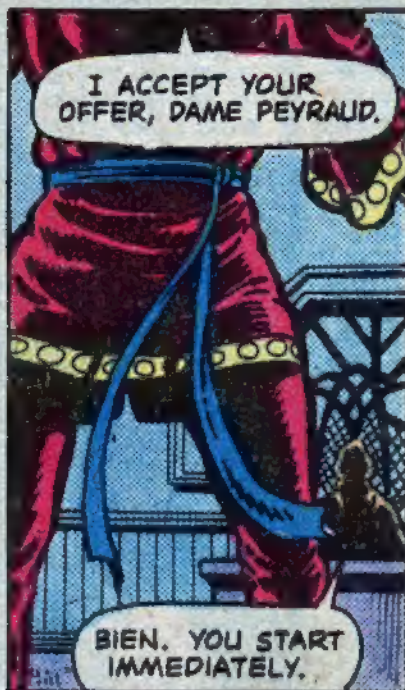


CLOSING THE REFINERY HAS THROWN HUNDREDS OUT OF WORK. AND SOME ARE NOT ABOVE REVENGE-- EVEN VIOLENCE.



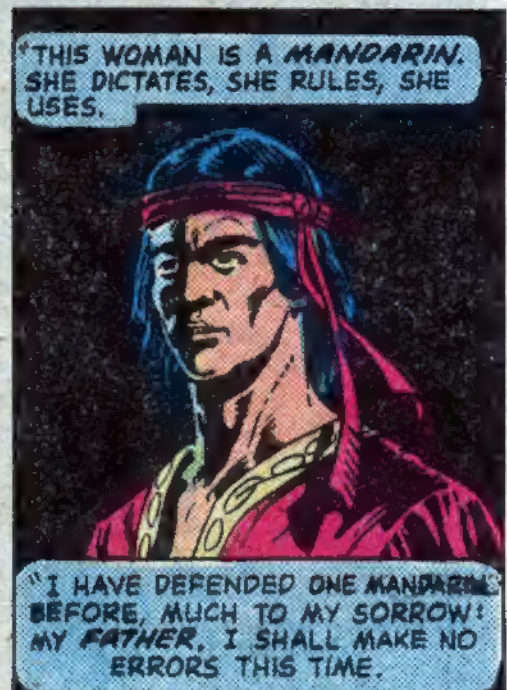
IF MADAME FELT HERSELF SAFE, THEN PERHAPS WE COULD CONVINCE HER TO REOPEN THE GATES. SHANG-CHI--?

I-- SHALL TRY, LUCIANE.



I ACCEPT YOUR OFFER, DAME PEYRAUD.

BIEN. YOU START IMMEDIATELY.



"THIS WOMAN IS A *MANDARIN*. SHE DICTATES, SHE RULES, SHE USES.

"I HAVE DEFENDED ONE MANDARIN BEFORE, MUCH TO MY SORROW! MY FATHER. I SHALL MAKE NO ERRORS THIS TIME.



"IF SHE IS EN-DANGERED, I WILL PROTECT HER.



"IN THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE THERE CAN BE NO EVIL.



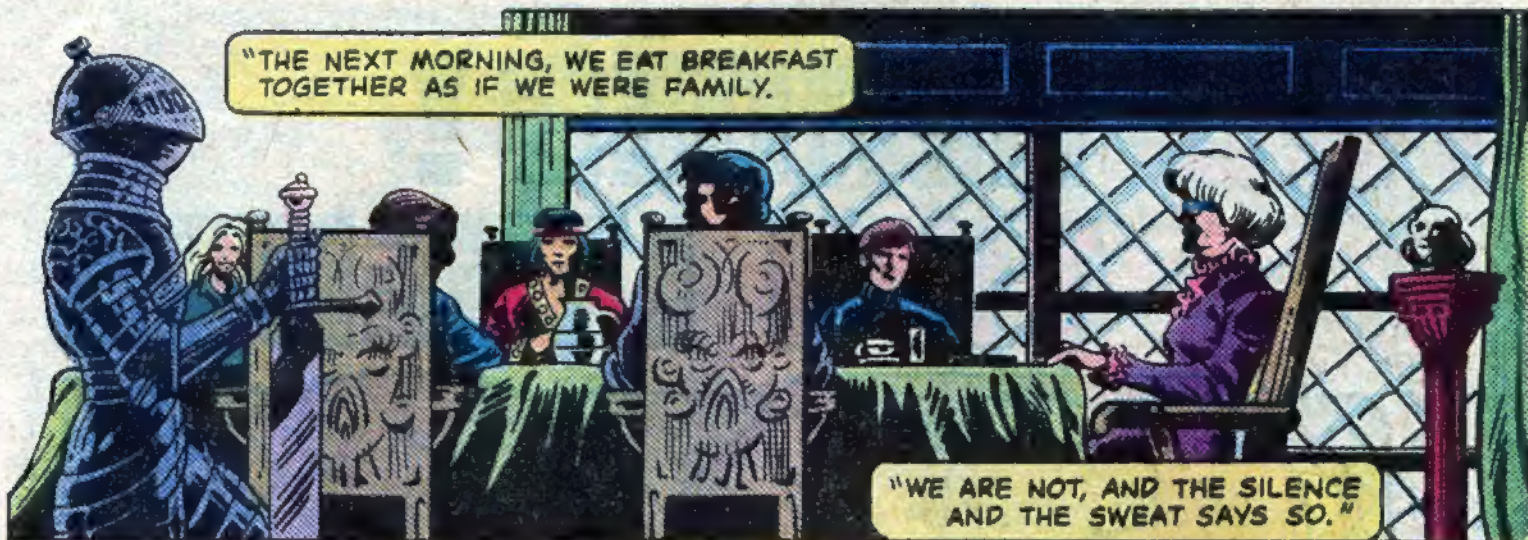
"IF ALL THAT IS REQUIRED IS VIGILANCE AND DEFENSE--



"I SHALL PERFORM THOSE FUNCTIONS--



"--AS BEST I CAN.



"THE NEXT MORNING, WE EAT BREAKFAST TOGETHER AS IF WE WERE FAMILY."

"WE ARE NOT, AND THE SILENCE AND THE SWEAT SAYS SO."



MADAME! WHAT--?

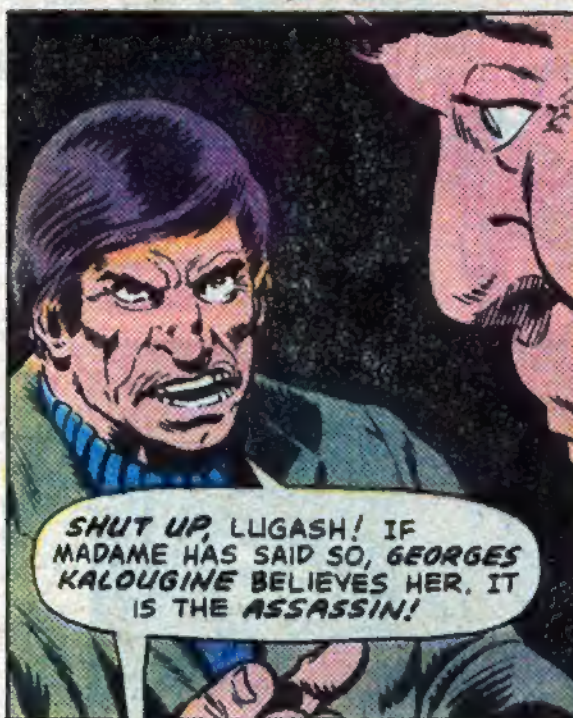
*SHE IS TREMBLING.



I--I SUPPOSE I SHOULD TELL YOU! SOMEHOW, THIS MORNING, I AM BLIND--
UTTERLY **BLIND!**



NO! IT-IT IS IMPOSSIBLE, MADAME! IT CANNOT BE!

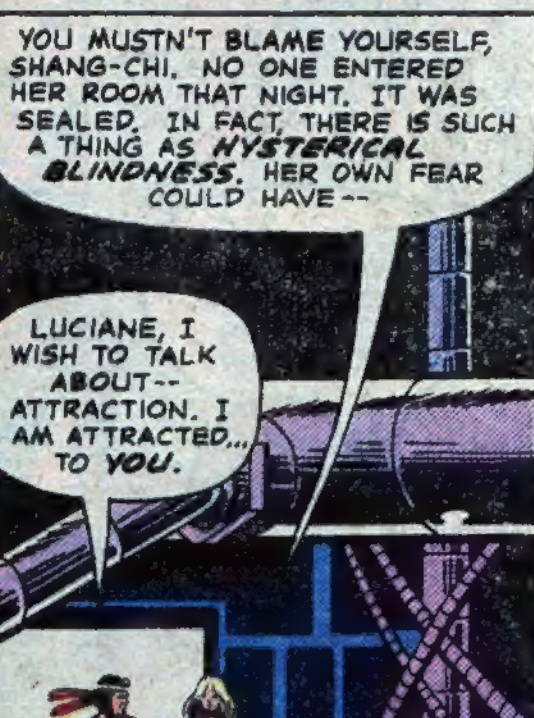


SHUT UP, LUGASH! IF MADAME HAS SAID SO, GEORGES KALOUGINE BELIEVES HER. IT IS THE **ASSASSIN!**



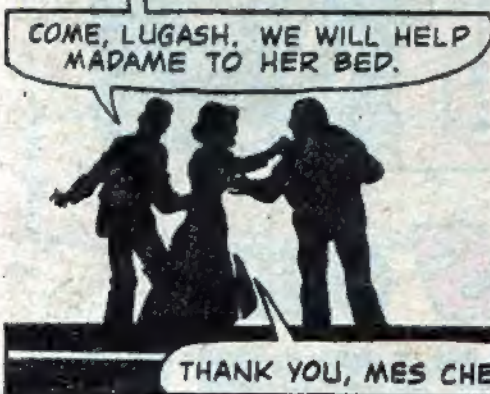
"IT SEEMS I HAVE FAILED."

"CAN I NOT KEEP A SINGLE FLOWER ALIVE?"



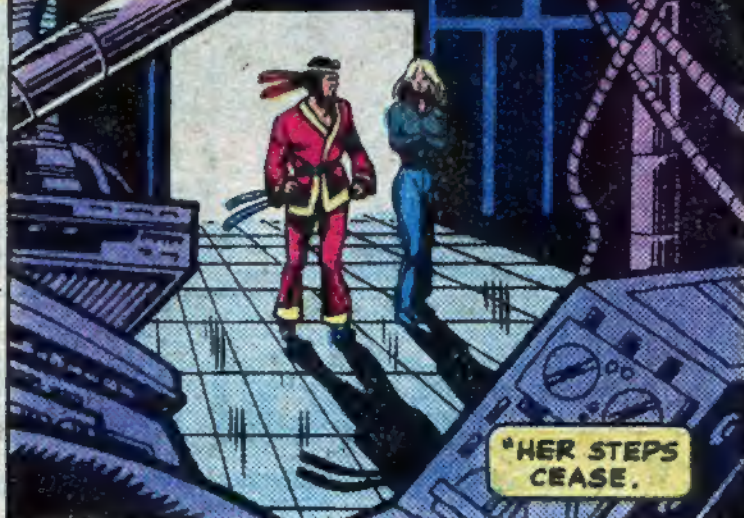
YOU MUSTN'T BLAME YOURSELF, SHANG-CHI. NO ONE ENTERED HER ROOM THAT NIGHT. IT WAS SEALED. IN FACT, THERE IS SUCH A THING AS **HYSTERICAL BLINDNESS**. HER OWN FEAR COULD HAVE --

LUCIANE, I WISH TO TALK ABOUT--
ATTRACTION. I AM ATTRACTED...
TO YOU.



COME, LUGASH. WE WILL HELP MADAME TO HER BED.

THANK YOU, MES CHERS.



*HER STEPS
CEASE.

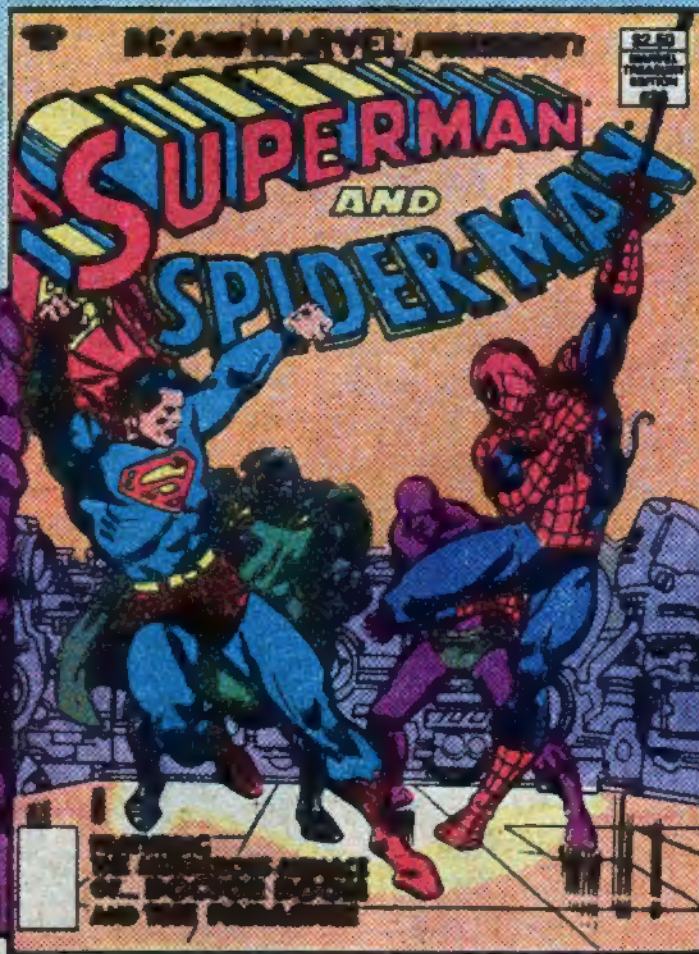
TWO HEROES! TWO LEGENDS!



TOGETHER!

ON
SALE
APRIL
28th

THEY'LL NEVER
SURVIVE WHAT WE
HAVE PLANNED
FOR THEM,
DR. DOOM!



A
JIM SHOOTER
JOHN BUSCEMA
JOE SINNOTT
BLOCK-
BUSTER!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN
"WE," PARASITE?

IF YOU MISS **THIS** ONE
YOU'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOURSELF!

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131-140.....	2.75
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181 intro Wolverine.....	10.00
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222-230 Surfer #250.....	1.50
241-249-251-255.....	1.00
256-260.....	75
261-w.....	60

KING SIZE/ANNUALS

1 1948 Starlin art.....	9.00
2 1961 orion.....	4.50
3-4 1971-1972.....	3.50
5 1976.....	2.50
6 1977.....	2.00
7 1978 Byrne art.....	2.75
8 1979.....	1.75
9 1980.....	1.25

GIANT SIZE

1 1975.....	3.00
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IRON MAN

1 orion issue.....	40.00
2 Crisis cover/art.....	15.00
3-5 Crisis art 3-4.....	9.00
6-10.....	4.00
11-20.....	4.00
21-23-46-48-52-54.....	3.00
27 Janice Card dies.....	3.50
47 Smith art/art.....	7.00
53 Starlin art.....	3.50
55-54 Starlin art.....	4.50
57-68-70.....	2.50
69 Starlin cover.....	2.75
71-73-80.....	2.00
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KING SIZE/ANNUALS

1 1970.....	5.00
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3-4 1976-1977.....	2.50

GIANT SIZE

1 1975.....	2.50
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KING COMIC

1 intro Com.....	2.00
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6-7.....	1.00
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KING SIZE/ANNUALS

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2.....	1.50

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11-w.....	60

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16-20 FF appear 18.....	30.00
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31-40 Golia #39-40.....	10.00
41-50.....	8.00
51-60 Capt Stacy #39-40.....	6.50
61-80.....	4.50
81-89-91-93-95-99.....	3.50
90 Capt. Stacy dies.....	5.00
94 orion.....	5.00
95-98 Drum stories.....	10.00
100 anniversary iss.....	10.00
101 intro Marbus.....	4.00
102 orion Marbus.....	7.50
103-112.....	3.00
113-114 Starlin art.....	4.50
115-120.....	3.50
121 Bone Stacy dies.....	20.00
122 Golia dies.....	20.00
123-140.....	2.50
141-150.....	1.75
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161-162 I-Mea.....	4.00
171-180-182-185.....	1.50
181 history of Spide.....	1.75
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187 Starlin art.....	1.50
189 Byrne cover/art.....	3.00
190 Byrne art.....	2.50
191-199-201-215.....	1.00
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KING SIZE/ANNUALS

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2 1968 I-Mea.....	17.50
3-4 1966-1967.....	9.00
5-8 1968-1971.....	5.00
9-10 1973-1974.....	3.50
11-12 1977-1978.....	2.00
13 1979 Byrne art.....	3.00
14 80 Dr-Str'ner.....	2.00

GIANT SIZE

1 1974 Dracula art.....	4.00
2.....	2.50
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STAR MAN

1 movie story bees.....	10.00
2-3 Chevin art 1-10.....	5.00
4 rear distribution.....	7.50
5-6 movie story ends.....	2.50
7-10 new stories bee.....	2.25
11-20 Infantino bees.....	2.00
21-30 last Infantino.....	1.50
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50 available 5/81.....	1.00
51-w.....	60

KING SIZE/ANNUAL

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GIANT SIZE

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94 Thunderbird dies 30.00	
95-101	



"I TURN AWAY, FOR HER SILENCE SAYS MUCH.

NO, SHANG-CHI. WAIT FOR MY WORDS.



YOU THINK THAT I AM AFRAID TO LOVE YOU. YOU ARE **WRONG**. BUT I SHALL NEVER BE TURNED ASIDE BY LOVE.



I MUST FOLLOW MY OWN PATH THROUGH LIFE, OR I SHALL BE LOST. IF YOU CAN LOVE ME ALONG THE PATH, I REJOICE. BUT IF YOU SEEK TO TURN ME FROM MY PATH, I SHALL TEAR AWAY FROM YOU.



"I, TOO, ONCE BELIEVED IN-- PATHS.

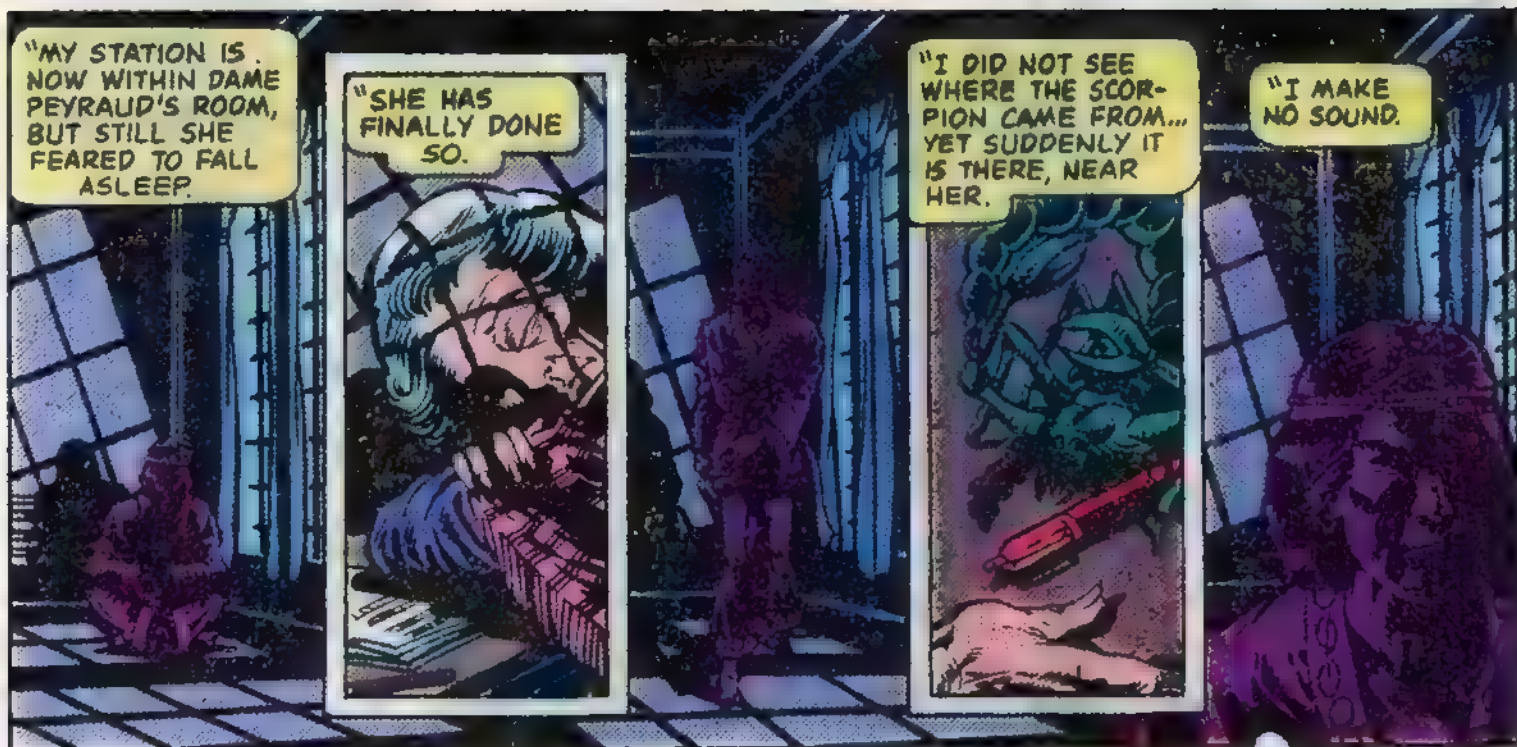
CAN YOU BEAR IT, SHANG-CHI? CAN YOU BEAR TO BE **USED--** AS I AM USING YOU?



YES.

THEN I AM GLAD.



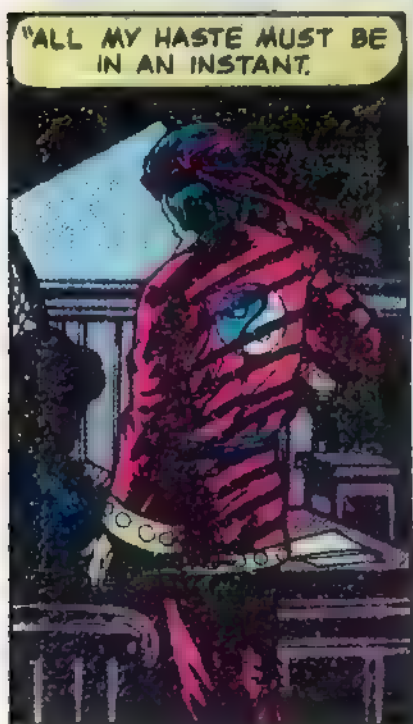


"MY STATION IS NOW WITHIN DAME PEYRAUD'S ROOM, BUT STILL SHE FEARED TO FALL ASLEEP."

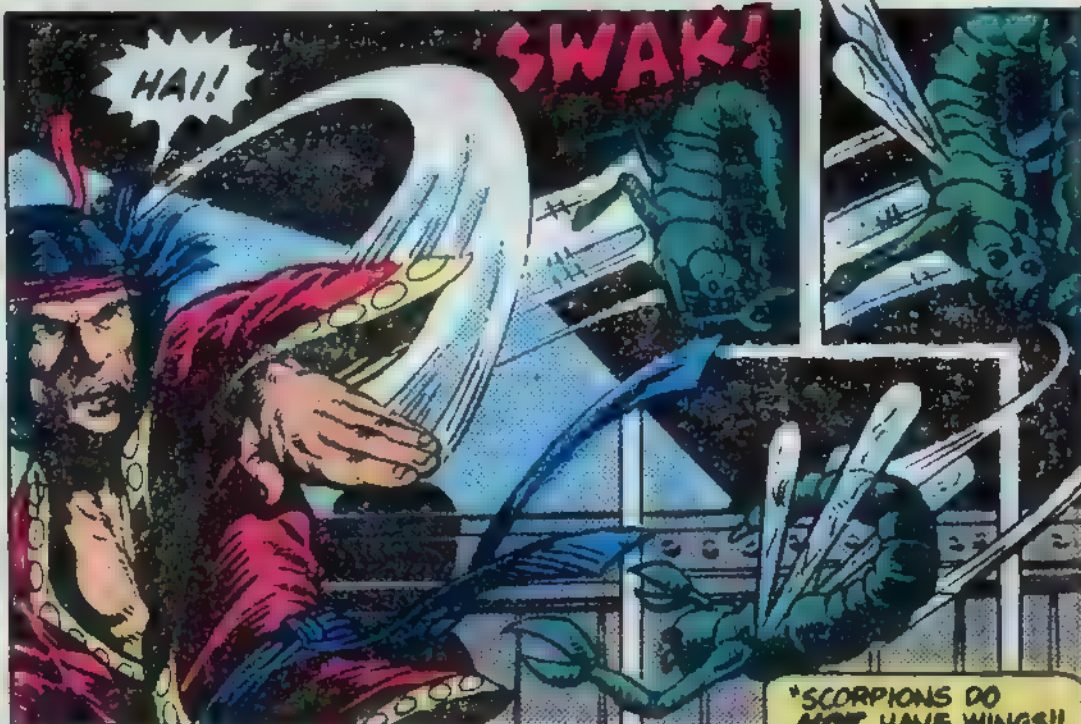
"SHE HAS FINALLY DONE SO."

"I DID NOT SEE WHERE THE SCORPION CAME FROM... YET SUDDENLY IT IS THERE, NEAR HER."

"I MAKE NO SOUND."



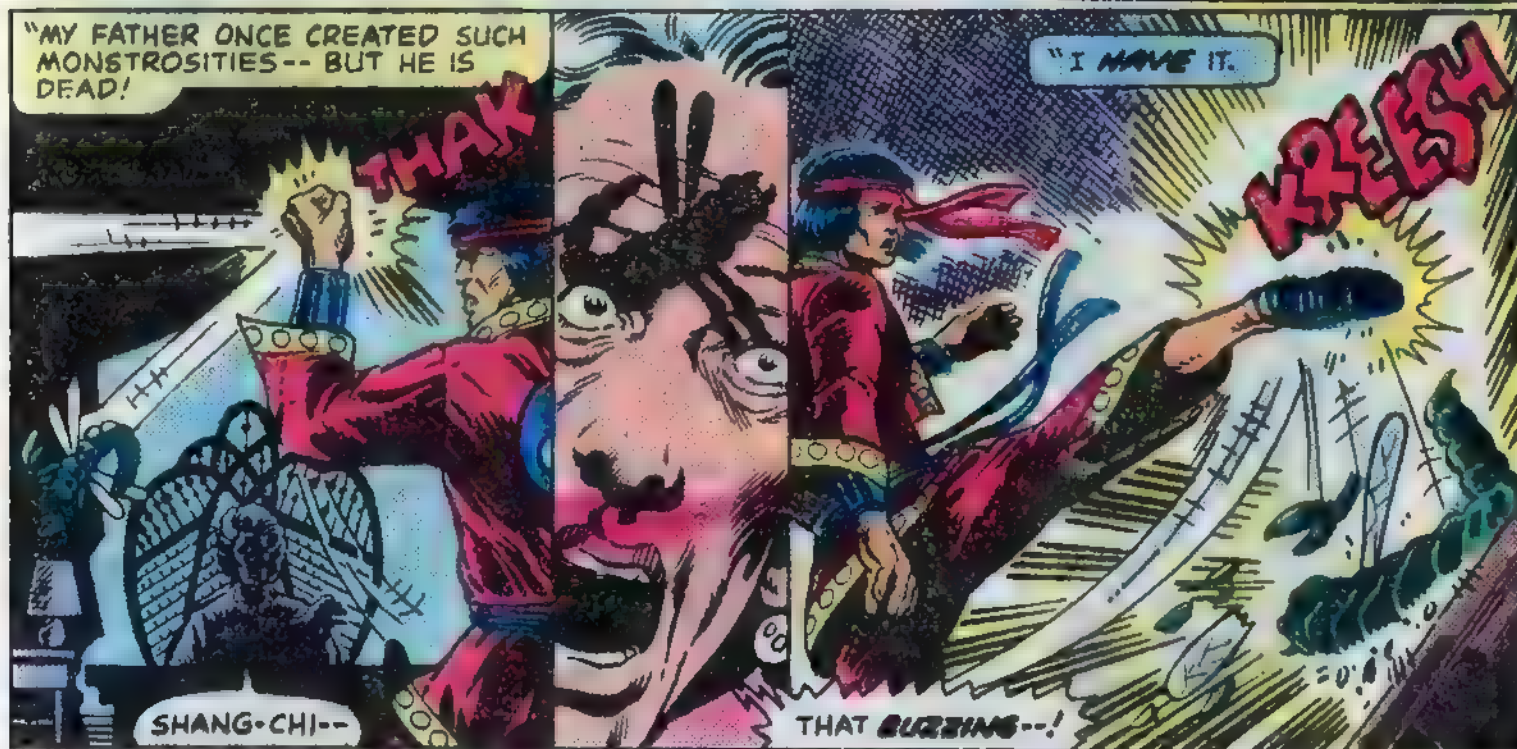
"ALL MY HASTE MUST BE IN AN INSTANT."



"HAI!"

"SWAK!"

"SCORPIONS DO NOT HAVE WINGS!!"



"MY FATHER ONCE CREATED SUCH MONSTROSITIES-- BUT HE IS DEAD!"

"THAK"

"I HAVE IT."

"KREESH"

SHANG-CHI--

THAT BZZZZING--!

"A MACHINE--!"

I HAVE
DISPOSED OF
THE THREAT, DAME
PEYRAUD.

DAME
PEYRAUD?

"SHE IS NOT MOVING.

"THAT
FLY--

"THEN...I HAVE BEEN
FOOLED. AND I HAVE
FAILED AGAIN.

YOU MUST GO,
SHANG-CHI!

MADAME IS
PARALYZED, AND YOU
DID NOTHING!

AND THESE ATTACKS
STARTED AFTER YOU
CAME!

SHANG-CHI IS
INNOCENT, KALOUGINE--
AND YOU KNOW IT!

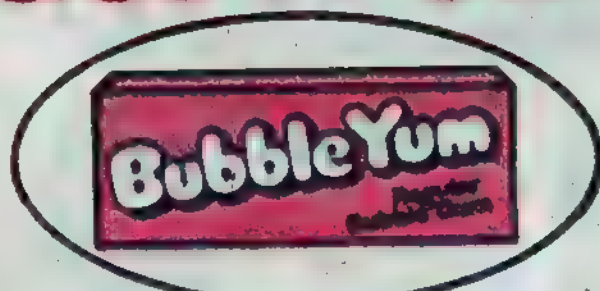
BUT PERHAPS YOU WISH
HIM OUT OF YOUR WAY?

NO. I
SHALL
LEAVE
FOR A
WHILE. I
DO NOT
WANT ANY
MORE
FEAR
IN THIS
PLACE.

"I HAVE TALKED TO
NAYLAND SMITH OF
HIS 'GAMES OF DECEIT
AND DEATH.' IT WAS A
COMFORTABLE PHRASE.

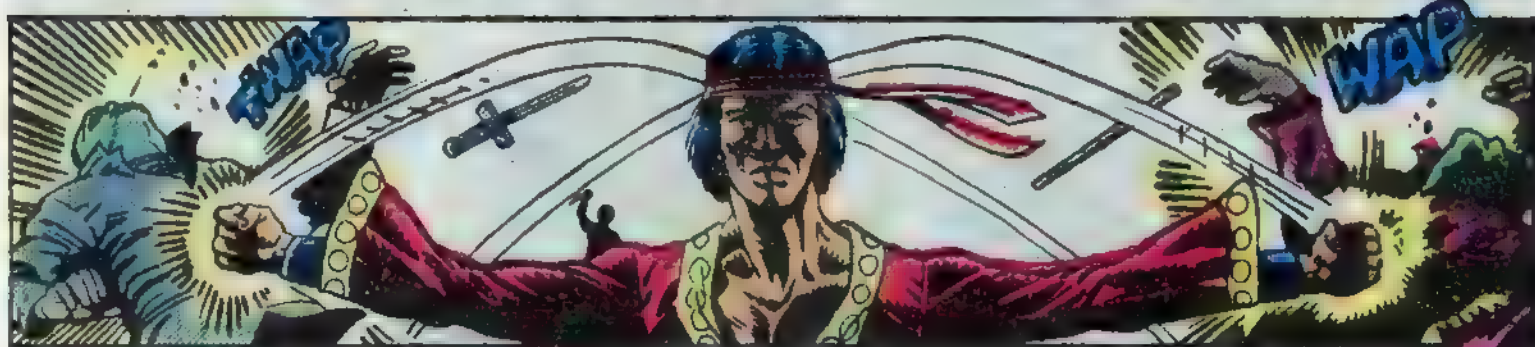
"HERE, DECEIT IS
NO GAME. AND
DEATH IS EVERY-
WHERE.

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the flavor lasts a long, long,
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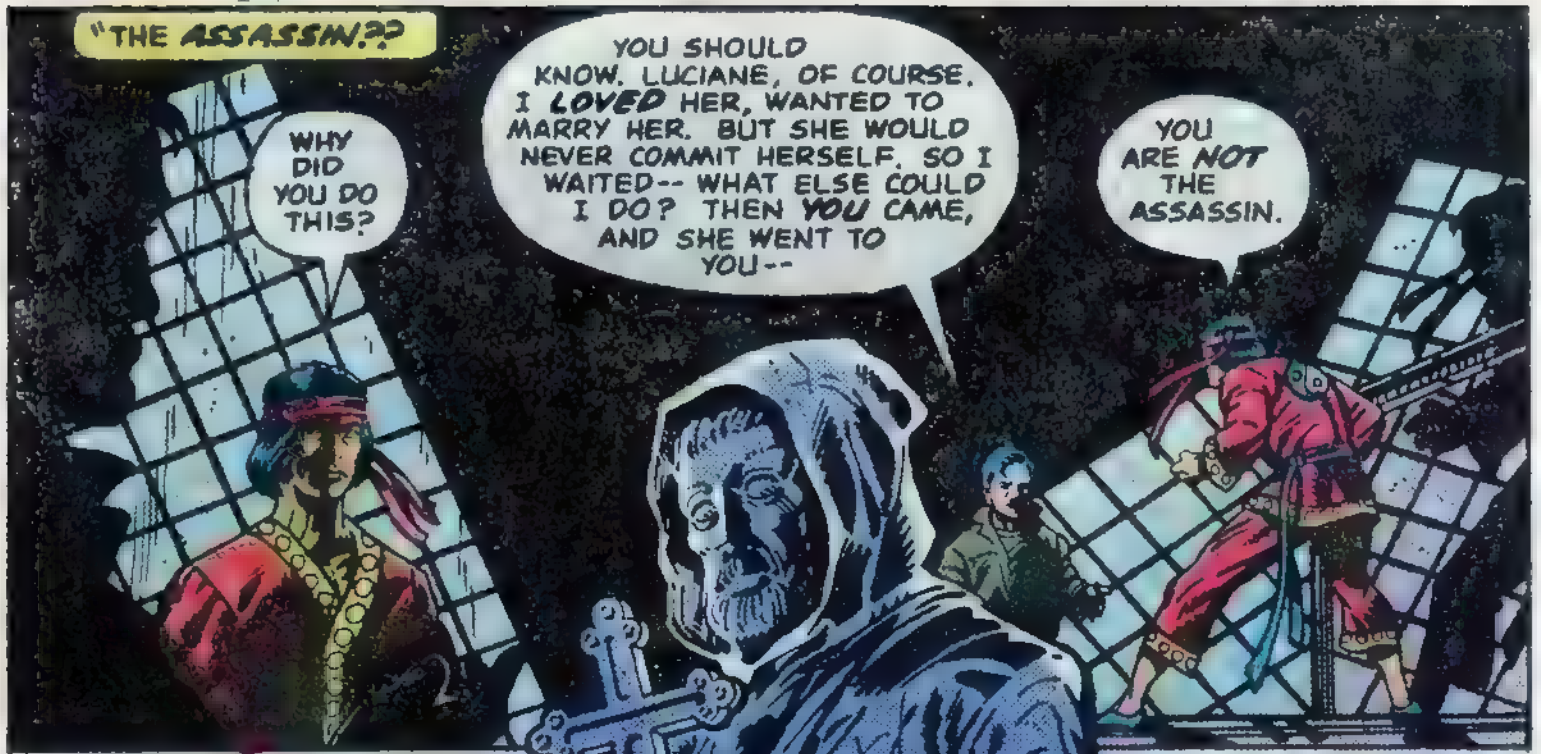


"THE ASSASSIN?"

WHY
DID
YOU DO
THIS?

YOU SHOULD
KNOW. LUCIANE, OF COURSE.
I **LOVED** HER, WANTED TO
MARRY HER. BUT SHE WOULD
NEVER COMMIT HERSELF. SO I
WAITED-- WHAT ELSE COULD
I DO? THEN **YOU** CAME,
AND SHE WENT TO
YOU--

YOU
ARE **NOT**
THE
ASSASSIN.



I KNEW YOU WERE
INNOCENT, M'SIEU.
I USED YOU AS
BAIT-- IN THE
TRAP.

I DISAGREE, M'SIEU.
HE **IS** THE ASSASSIN.
HE **LIES** TO YOU.

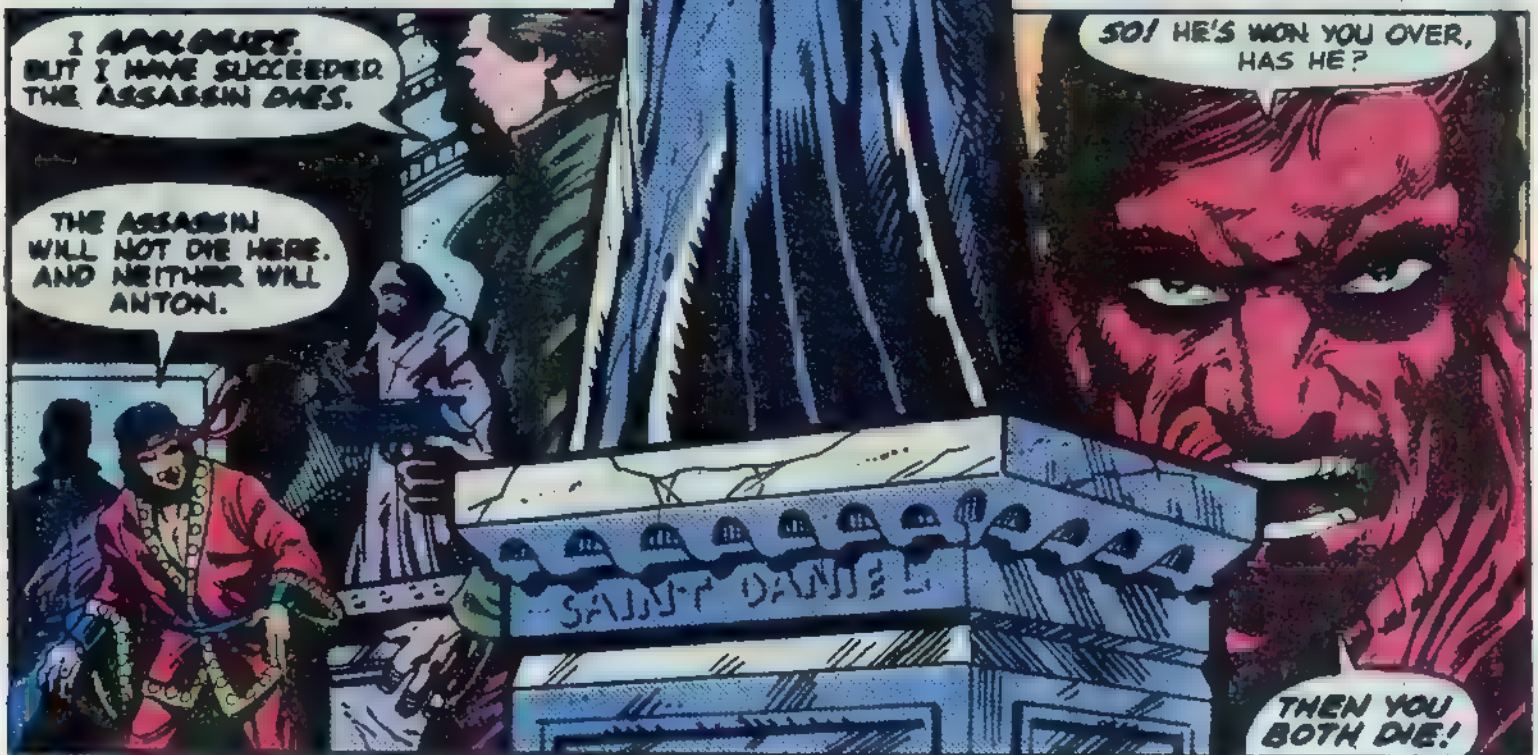
KALOUSINE!



I **APPOLOGIZE.**
BUT I HAVE SUCCEEDED.
THE ASSASSIN **DIES.**

THE ASSASSIN
WILL NOT DIE HERE.
AND NEITHER WILL
ANTON.

SO! HE'S WON YOU OVER,
HAS HE?



**THEN YOU
BOTH DIE!**





WHAT HAS HAPPENED? HOW IS MADAME?



SHE HAS HAD A HEART ATTACK. A BAD ONE.



I FOUND DR. LUGASH WITH HER.



THAT IS MERELY BECAUSE I ANSWERED HER ALARM FASTER THAN YOU DID, MY DEAR.

"WITH BREAKFAST, COME REVELATIONS..."



YOU HAVE MY SYMPATHIES. BUT, AS YOUR LIAISON WITH THE E.E.C., I AM FORCED TO TAKE CHARGE HERE.

PARIS
EEC COUNTRY
DEMAND MORE
PRODUCTION

THE REFINERY
RE-OPENS
MONDAY.

* EUROPEAN ECONOMIC
COMMUNITY -- JIM.



YOU ARE RIGHT, LORD BURTONWIL, OF COURSE. BUT I FEEL I'M BETRAYING DAME PEYRAUD.

THERE IS NO BETRAYAL -- IF THE ASSASSIN IS FOUND.



I HAVE DONE SO.

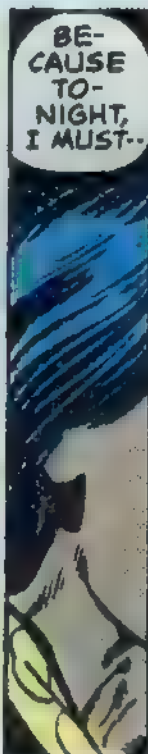


YOU ARE LYING, M'SIEU.



I DO NOT LIE. I SHALL TELL YOU THE IDENTITY TOMORROW MORNING.

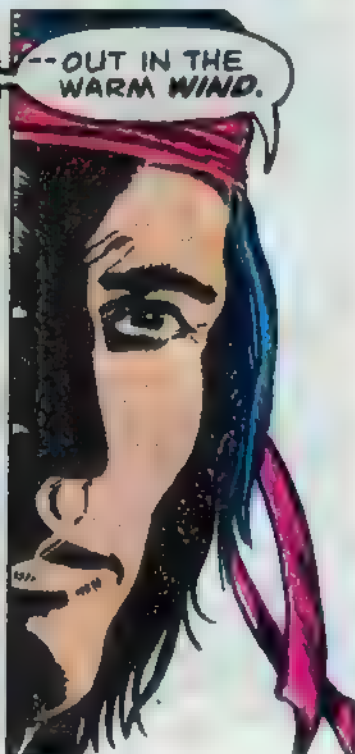
TOMORROW? WHY NOT TONIGHT, MAN?



BECAUSE TONIGHT, I MUST--



--FACE FAILURE AND REAR--



--OUT IN THE WARM WIND.

"MY STATEMENT WILL CONFUSE AND DISTURB THEM. THEY WILL THINK IT A **PUZZLE**... BUT IT IS THE **TRUTH**."



"THE ASSASSIN WILL KNOW IT FOR A **CHALLENGE**."

YOU **ARE** THE ONE, THEN, WHO SOUGHT TO KILL DAME PEYRAUD. YOU ARE THE AGENT OF DEATH--

-- DR LUGASH.

CURSE YOU! **CHINOIS!** I HAD NO CHOICE! NONE AT ALL!

I KNOW, YOU ARE NOT THE ONE I SEEK TONIGHT, YOU ARE MERELY **DEATH**.

THEN I AM **FREE**.

FREE? I AM LOOKING FOR THE ONE THAT **ENSLAVES** YOU, THE AGENT OF **FEAR**--

-- LUCIANE

MY NAME IS **NOT** LUCIANE.

YOU WOULD DO BETTER TO CALL ME **DIADÉM**.

NO, SHANG-CHI--

AND I MUST DISPOSE OF YOU.

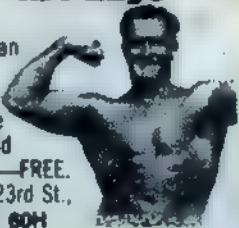
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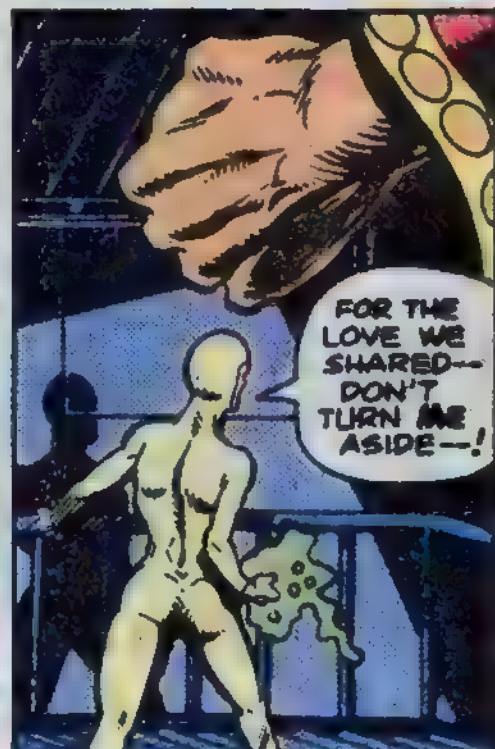
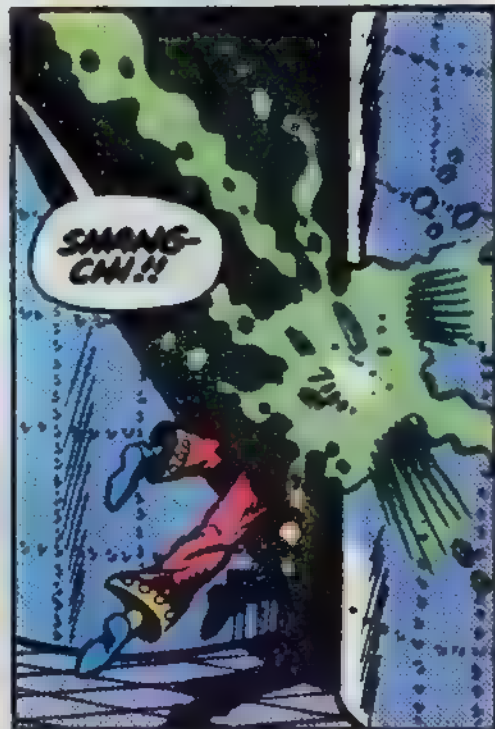
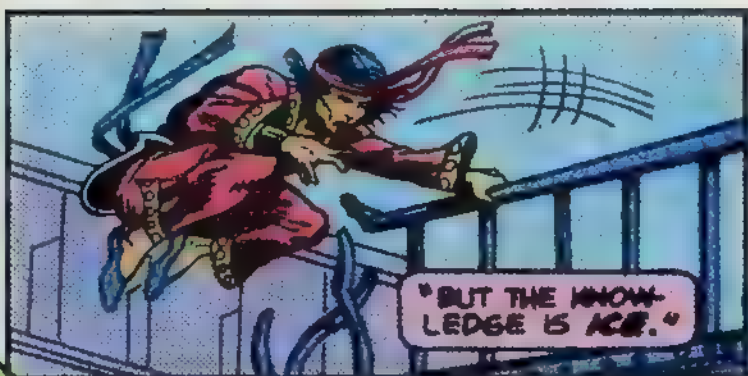
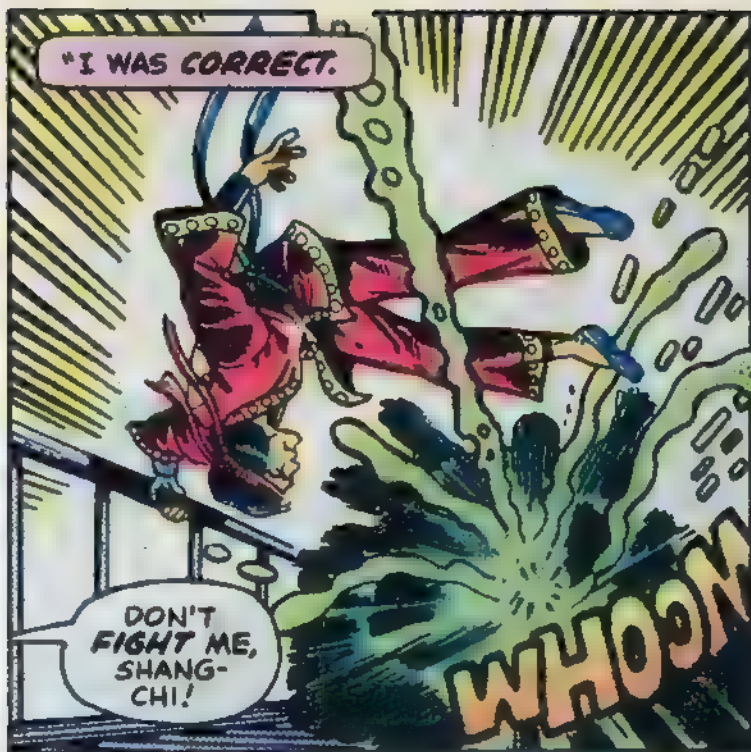
STAR WARS

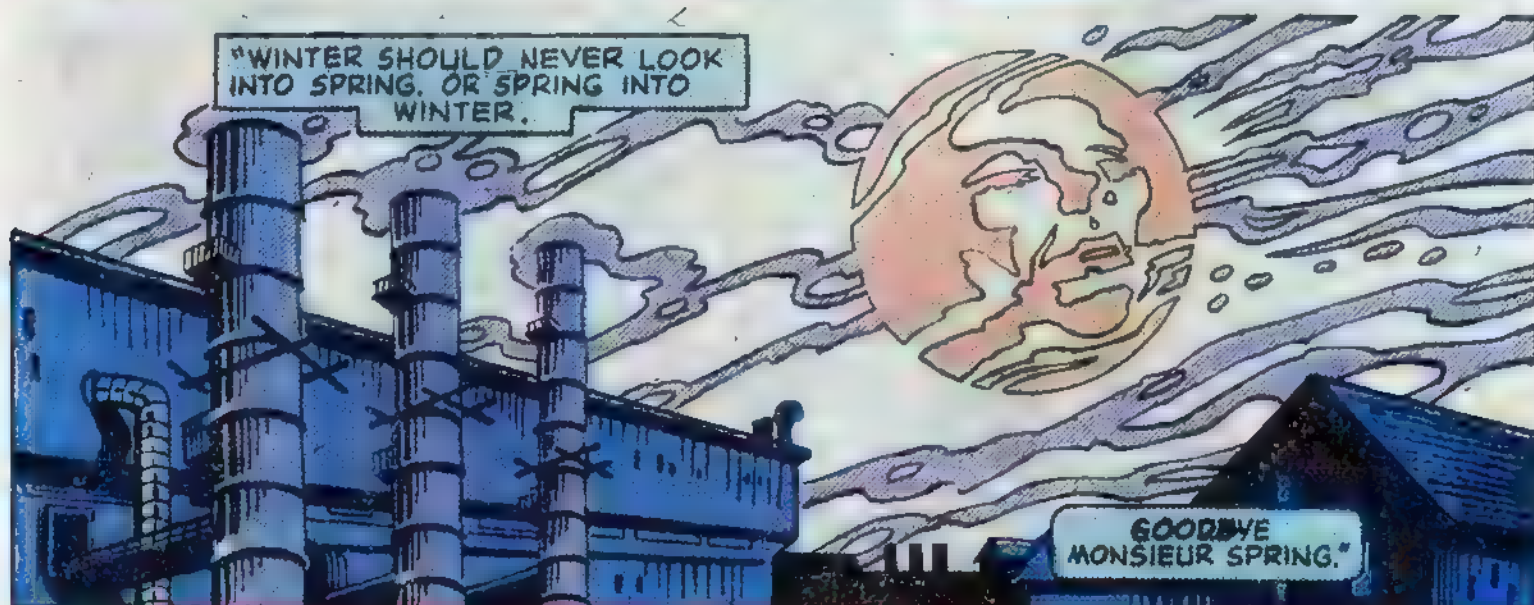
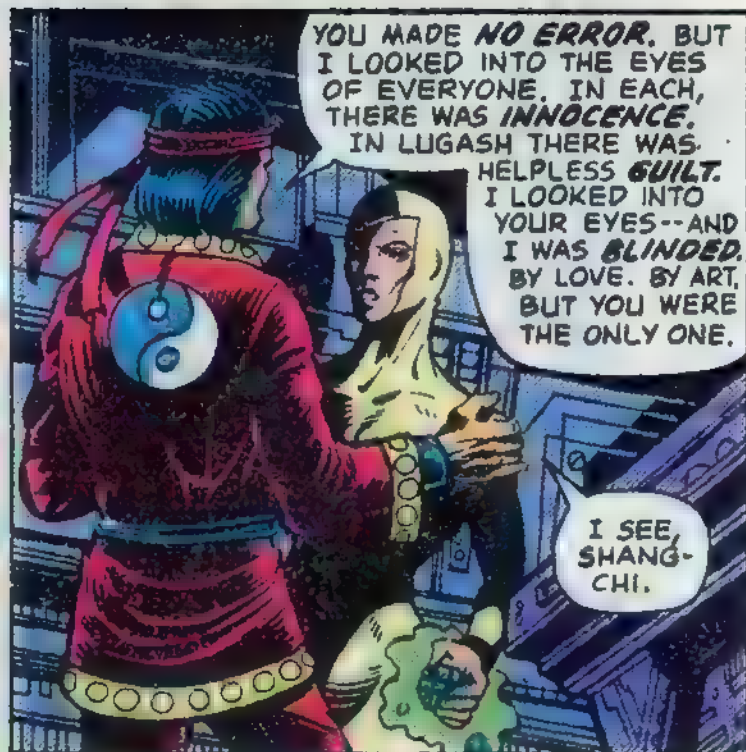


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SPIRIT OF STRENGTH AND
WILL THROUGH WHICH
ALL EFFORTS FLOW...
AND FROM WHICH THE
IMPOSSIBLE BECOMES
POSSIBLE..."



"BUT THE IMPOSSIBLE IS MERELY A
DIVERSION TO THE 'CHI' -- WHOSE TRUE
PURPOSE LIES FAR BEYOND THE IMPOSSIBLE,
IN THE REALM OF UNIVERSAL HARMONY
AND TIMELESS TRANQUILITY. SHOULD THIS
REALM EVER BE ATTAINED, MY OWN 'CHI'
WILL BE ABLE TO RISE NO HIGHER,
ADVANCE NO FURTHER."



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THE REDEMPTION OF LOST ART

"TRUE SILENCE, FOR ME, HAS BECOME A LOST ART, STOLEN BY THE CHAOS OF REALITY."

"ONCE, I WAS ABLE TO MAINTAIN THE INNER YIN/YANG'S BALANCE BETWEEN LIGHT AND DARKNESS, PEACE AND VIOLENCE... BUT NOW THE OUTER WORLD'S DARKER SIDE HAS TIPPED THE SCALE, OBSESSING ME WITH VIOLENCE AND DRIVING ALL PEACE FROM MY SOUL -- UNTIL I WANT TO RAGE AND WAIL AGAINST THE MIDNIGHT WIND."

"AND SO I HAVE BEGUN TO LOOK INWARD ONCE AGAIN, SEEKING THE ART I HAVE LOST -- THE PRECIOUS ART OF SELFLESS MOBILITY, EFFORTLESS GRACE, TOLERANT ACCEPTANCE..."

"IT WILL NOT BE EASY, BUT ALREADY SUCCESS BECKONS. ART IS NEVER EASY AND I FEEL NOTHING LESS THAN REJECTION AND FULFILLMENT OF ART IN LIFE, IN ALL OF LIFE'S MYRIAD SHIFTS AND MOMENTS, IN ALL OF LIFE'S FORMLESS FORM, EVEN IN ITS GRACELESS GRACE -- BEAUTY GLIMPSED IN UGLINESS AND SEIZED FROM PAIN..."

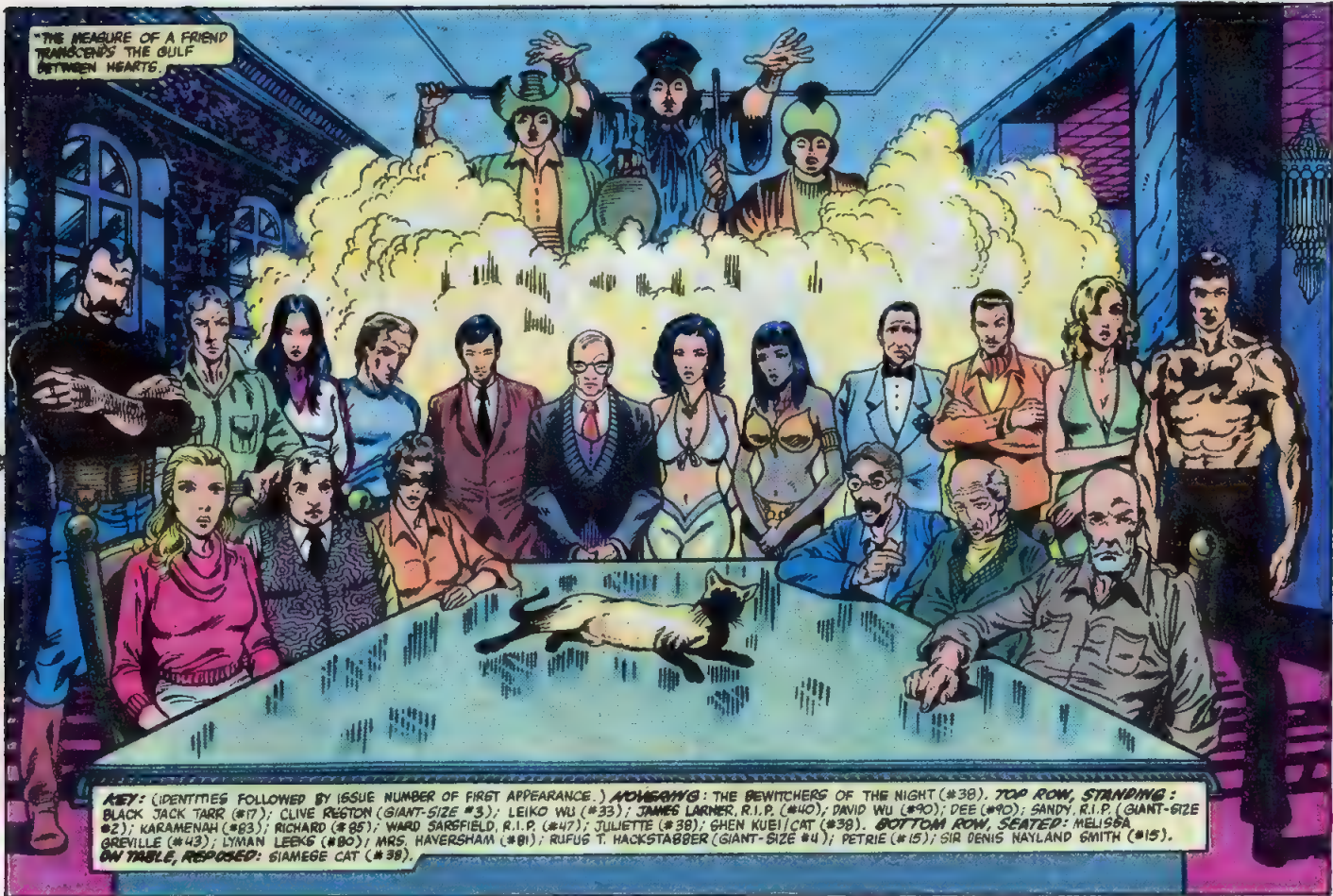
"I THINK I REALIZE THE ENORMITY OF THE QUEST -- FOR THE GREATEST ART OF ALL LIES IN THE TRIUMPH OVER A LOSS OF ART."

"I HAVE SUFFERED THAT LOSS... BITTERLY."

"BUT I WILL YET TRIUMPH."



"THE MEASURE OF A FRIEND
TRANSCENDS THE GULF
BETWEEN HEARTS."

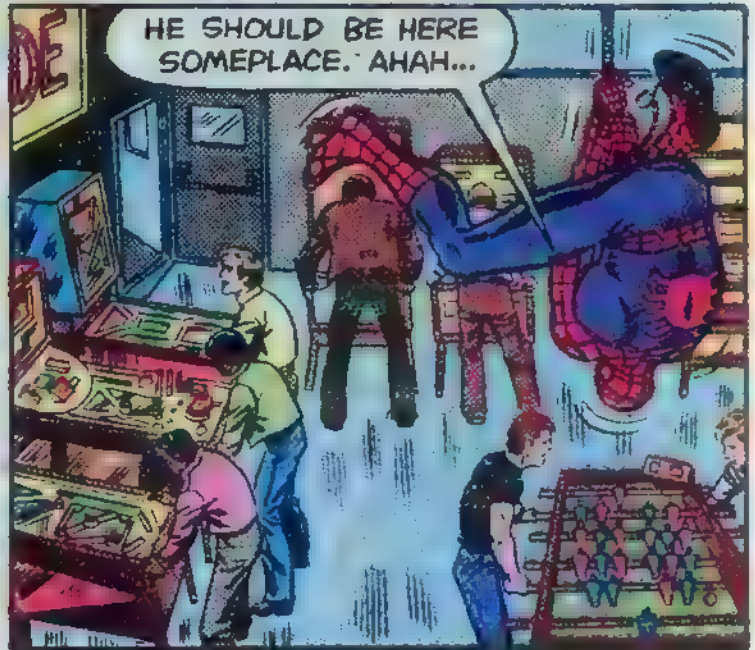


KEY: (IDENTITIES FOLLOWED BY ISSUE NUMBER OF FIRST APPEARANCE.) **WITCHES:** THE BEWITCHERS OF THE NIGHT (#38). **TOP ROW, STANDING:** BLACK JACK TARR (#17); CLIVE REGGON (GIANT-SIZE #3); LEIKO WU (#33); JAMES LARNER, R.I.P. (#40); DAVID WU (#90); DEE (#90); SANDY, R.I.P. (GIANT-SIZE #2); KARAMENAH (#83); RICHARD (#85); WARD SARGFIELD, R.I.P. (#47); JULIETTE (#38); GHEN KUEI/CAT (#38). **BOTTOM ROW, SEATED:** MELISSA GREVILLE (#43); LYNNAN LEEKS (#80); MRS. HAYERSHAM (#81); RUFUS T. HACKSTABBER (GIANT-SIZE #4); PETRIE (#15); SIR DENIS NAYLAND SMITH (#15). **ON TABLE, REPOSED:** SIAMESE CAT (#38).

SPIDER-MAN® vs. THE HUMAN COMPUTER!

MYSTERIOUSLY, ALL THE COMPUTERS IN THE CITY HAVE GONE HAYWIRE. WORST OF ALL, THE FUN HAS GONE OUT OF KIDS' ELECTRONIC GAMES. NOBODY CAN WIN AGAINST "THE HUMAN COMPUTER".

THERE'S A HUMAN COMPUTER ON THE LOOSE-- AN EVIL GENIUS WITH AN ELECTRONIC BRAIN. HE'S OUTSMARTING EVERYONE-- EVEN THE POLICE.

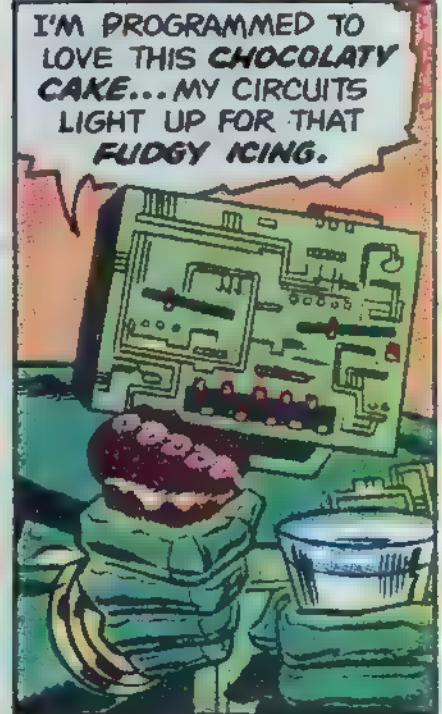
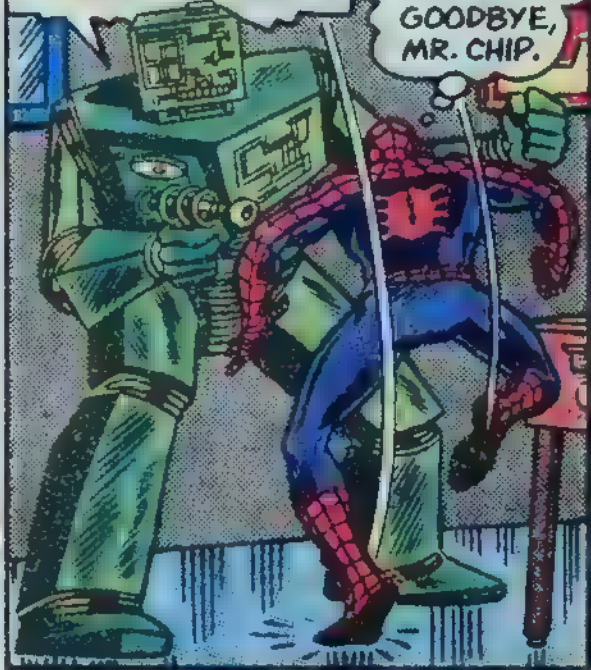


DON'T BUG ME, WEBHEAD. I'VE GOT YOUR NUMBER...AND EVERYBODY'S NUMBER.

IF I CAN TRAP THIS WEIRDO-- IT'LL BE GOODBYE, MR. CHIP.

SOME **HOSTESS®** CUP CAKES AND MILK MIGHT DO THE TRICK.

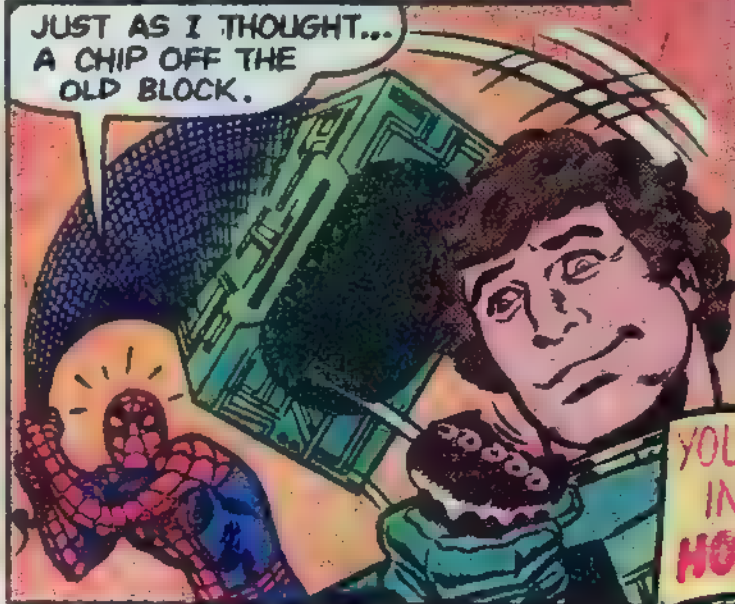
I'M PROGRAMMED TO LOVE THIS **CHOCOLATY CAKE...** MY CIRCUITS LIGHT UP FOR THAT **FUDGY ICING.**



JUST AS I THOUGHT... A CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK.

LOOKS LIKE YOUR GAME IS UP. TIME TO CASH IN YOUR CHIPS.

I'M JUST A CHIP WHO LOVES **CHOCOLATY HOSTESS CUP CAKES!**



YOU GET A BIG DELIGHT IN EVERY BITE OF **HOSTESS® CUP CAKES**

"A MAN MAY NOT BE TOO CAREFUL IN HIS CHOICE OF ENEMIES, FOR ONCE HE HAS CHOSEN... HE HAS FORFEITED A FRIEND."

KEY: (IDENTITIES FOLLOWED BY ISSUE NUMBER OF FIRST APPEARANCE.) **TOP ROW:** MINAI (#16); KORAIN (#20); PHANSIGAR (GIANT-SIZE #3); DACOTI (#18); SI-FAN (#25); COUNCIL OF SEVEN (GIANT-SIZE #1); SHADOW-STALKER (GIANT-SIZE #3); ORLTON VELCRO (#29); RAZOR-FIST (#21). **CENTER ROW:** FAWANE (#31); MORDILLO (#33); DARKSTRIDER (#37); CAT / PHEN KUEI (#38); TIGER-CLAW (GIANT-SIZE #4); SHOCKWAVE (#42); GOLDEN PASSER ASSASSIN; BOLO AND KIMBA (#44); CHANKAR (#16); SHAKA KHARN (#48); WAR-YORE (#54); DOCTOR DOOM (#59); SKULLCRUSHER (#61); KOGAR (#63). **BOTTOM ROW:** BLACK DEMON BEET (#70); ZARAN (#77); LEOPARD CULTIST (#80); MARU (#80); FAN LO SUEE (#26); DR. FU MANGCHU, AND PENQ (#15); DUCHARME (GIANT-SIZE #1); WARRIORS OF THE GOLDEN DAWN (#83); GAMIGDAT (#93).

BULLPEN BULLETINS

BULLPEN BULLETINS!

YOU ASKED FOR IT — YOU GOT IT!

We received an avalanche of mail cursing us, threatening us, pleading with us, and generally demanding that the Bullpen Bulletin Page be reinstated. All right, already!

Along with the outraged demands, we received explicit instructions about just what you folks out there want to see and read on this page. Almost everyone said (and in no uncertain terms) that they wanted a minimum of hype and a maximum dose of news about their favorite titles and the stars who create them — the inside scoop, straight from the top.

TELL YA WHAT I'M GONNA DO....

The "top" these days, as always, is Stan Lee. Publisher Without Peer. Like everybody else, I'd love it if Stan could write this page. He can't. He just doesn't have time. Why not? Well, running our new Movie/TV operation, *Marvel Productions*, pretty much eats up the time left over from being Publisher of the Marvel line. What does he do, exactly? Well, he's the Creative Director for one thing, guiding and supervising all of the creative efforts of the entire company. Stan himself will explain some of the other high-level show-biz/publishing executive-type stuff that keeps him hopping in Soapbox Specials which will appear on this page from time to time in the future — whenever he's got some big news to announce and he can spare ten minutes to write!

We'll also present on this page occasional announcements, gossip, news, and nonsense from Al Milgrom, Denny O'Neil, Jim Salicrup, and Louise Jones, pertaining to the particular comics and magazines they edit. You'll also hear from Larry Hama about *CRAZY*! doings... and once in a while Archie Goodwin, Editorial Director of *EPIC ILLUSTRATED*, will enlighten us all about the latest goings on in his domain (down the hall and to the left — the office with the spaceships parked outside. You can't miss it). In between all those special things, I'll be giving you the general lowdown on things Marvel-ous. I'm not Stan Lee, but as Editor-in-Chief, I am right here in the middle of things, and I can fill you in on most of the important current events. And I will.

HOW...?

About like this. Straight talk, off the cuff, and without a lot of extraneous foolahrah. I plan to concentrate on writing about what you want to know — the behind-the-scenes stuff. I warn you, there's bound to be some of the old hard sell on this page for two reasons: A) we're pretty proud of our works here, and B) we've got to sell a bunch of comics and magazines every month, right? I'll do my best to confine the hype to new titles and really special issues. I'll even put it all in a special little section of its own, so that if you don't want to read it, you can skip over it. Fair enough?

SO, OKAY, WHAT'S NEW...?

Since we haven't had a Bullpen Page for eons, a lot of my "news" is already old — but just to make it official...

WELCOME...!

...to Denny O'Neil, pipe-smoking, highly-acclaimed writer and editor who joined our staff more than a year ago. His skill at plotting, writing, and teaching same is awesome. Ask *DAREDEVIL* writer (and penciler) Frank Miller who, with only a few scripts to his credit is being compared to the likes of Chris Claremont. Most likely Frank will admit that Denny is a genius who helped him tremendously, and then say, "too bad he's older than Yoda." Being (gasp) 40, Denny gets kidded a lot by the spring-chicken type Bullpenners (Frank's twenty-four), but he doesn't care. Whenever he gets depressed, a relaxing ten-or-twelve mile run along the West Side Highway perks up his spirits... and stifles the kidders, most of whom couldn't even walk that far. Next month, I'll tell you why a lot of folks around Marvel refer to Denny as "HeF".

ANOTHER WELCOME...!

...to Louise Jones, whose sweet, soft-spoken, gentle manner is legend in the trade...along with her strong will, crisp professionalism, and dazzling creativity. She has an uncanny knack for gathering together outstanding creative people and bringing out their absolute best. (Been reading the *X-MEN* lately?)

Louise came to Marvel from Warren Magazines, where she was Senior Editor, and immediately proved that her reputation as an innovator and creator was more than justified. Her terrific talents wed perfectly with Marvel's nothing-but-the-best approach to graphic storytelling. And speaking of weddings, several months ago, lovely Louise married Walt Simonson! Wait, in case you've been in *Tierra del Fuego*, is an artist whose achievements would take pages to list, and since this paragraph's about Louise, I won't. Besides, I'm sure most of you are familiar with Walt's work, but Louise has done most of her work behind the scenes as an editor, leaving the limelight to others — and so only insiders know that she's considered a powerful, creative force in the industry. Now you know it too.

ANOTHER ONE...!

...to Larry Hama — artist, writer, actor, musician, editor, and expert on just about everything. Larry is a martial arts expert, a foreign culture expert, a firearms and explosive ordnance expert, and... isn't this getting dull? So he knows everything and does everything well. Big Deal. If he's so smart, what's he doing editing a rag like *CRAZY*? (For the answer, see the Hype Box!)

MORE WEDDINGS...

Congratulations to Jim Starlin and Daina Graziunas who were married in October... also to John Byrne and Andree Braun who were wed in November! John met his lovely lady at the Chicago Con last summer, and maybe if you're good, I'll tell you in an upcoming Bulletin how, if it weren't for me, John and "Andy" (as she likes to be called) might have passed like ships in the night! Maybe I'll even get John to tell the story.

SPEAKING OF JOHN...

Lots of folks were puzzled when they heard that John had left the *X-MEN*. Why? Well, after years of drawing *X-folks*, John was plain tired of multiple mutants. And, frankly, having developed his story-telling skills to awesome heights, John felt the need to have more creative control over the characters he was working on — meaning that he wanted to write as well as draw a series. All that added up to moving over to the *FANTASTIC FOUR*. Chris Claremont, *X-MEN* writer for six glorious years now, will be joined by Dave Cockrum, who started the new *X-Men* on the road to success way back when, and Joe Rubinstein, who's an outstanding inker. Looks like everything worked out fine.

I CALL 'EM RUG-RATS...

Bill and Karen Mantio became proud parents of a new little Micronaut, *Carina*... Bob and Fran Larkin recently added baby *Clara* to the brood... and, way down yonder in Texas, Kerry and Sue Gammit presented Jeffrey Matthew to the world. If this keeps up, folks may start calling this place the Mighty Marvel Playpen!

FUN! FUN! FUN!

Recently I was invited to a gathering of the Pittsburgh Comic Club in my hometown, Pittsburgh, Pa., and if you think this is a prelude to a plug, you're right. They're a great bunch of people, hundreds strong, and they have more outrageous projects going than you can shake a *DAZZLER* No. 1 at. They have a great time... and you can get in on it, even if you don't live in the Steel City. For info, write to Fearless President...

Ben Pondexter
827 Anaheim St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

R-E-S-P-E-C-T

While in the old hometown, I paid a call at the University of Pittsburgh's Hillman Library, where I met Charles Aston Jr., Coordinator of Special Collections. Aided and abetted by The Pittsburgh Comic Club (them again!), he is adding a comprehensive collection of comics to the Hillman's Library of Popular Culture. Part of the collection has already been organized and is available for scholarly study. And soon, the library will include the collection in its computerized listings, thereby making it accessible to students across the land. (And, no, you can't check out an *F.F.* No. 1 for two weeks.) By the way, the col-

lection is being built largely on the strength of donations. If you think you might be interested in contributing to this collection, which Mr. Aston assures us is of enormous historical importance, get in touch with Ben Pondexter at the address above. Do not send comics or anything else unbidden. Inquire first, okay?

AND NOW...

...that's about it for this month. I advise you to check out the Hype Box, below. The stuff mentioned therein wouldn't be if we didn't think it was terrific.

Thanks,

Jim Shooter

THE HYPE BOX

If you haven't picked up a copy of *CRAZY* in a while, you're in for a big surprise. We sincerely believe that *Crazy* has become, in the one short year since Larry Hama took over the editorial reins, the funniest humor-mag around! This month, *Crazy* #75's got "The Telltale Cat In The Hat Comes Back," "Space War Wizards," and more stuff you're really gonna laugh over. Give it a shot.

And don't miss the all-weird last issue of *MAN-THING* (#11), also on sale now. It features, among other things, the death of *Chris Claremont*!! Pencil by Val Mayerik.

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST!

- ☐ MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #77 — Starring the Thing, Man-Thing, and Sgt. Fury and his Howling Commandos!
- ☐ SPIDER-WOMAN #40
- ☐ STAR TREK #18
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #172
- ☐ MARVEL SUPER HEROES #98 — Featuring the Hulk!
- ☐ DAZZLER #5
- ☐ KA-ZAR #4
- ☐ SPIDEY SUPER STORIES #53
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #218
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #259
- ☐ THOR #309
- ☐ MICRONAUTS #31
- ☐ GHOST RIDER #58
- ☐ SAVAGE SHE-HULK #18
- ☐ MOON KNIGHT #9
- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #261
- ☐ AVENGERS #208
- ☐ CONAN #124
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #128 — Starring Spider-Man!
- ☐ X-MEN #147
- ☐ ROM #20
- ☐ POWER MAN/IRON FIST #71
- ☐ MAN-THING #11
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #232
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP #107 — Spidey and She-Hulk!
- ☐ IRON MAN #148
- ☐ PETER PARKER #58
- ☐ DEFENDERS #97
- ☐ MARVEL SUPER ACTION #33 — Starring the Avengers!
- ☐ STAR WARS #49
- ☐ MASTER OF KUNG FU #102

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #65
- ☐ CRAZY #75
- ☐ HULK #27
- ☐ EPIC #6 — Cover painting by Neal Adams!
- ☐ BIZARRE ADVENTURES #26 — Featuring King Kull with eye-popping art by Britain's John Bolton.

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